

Washington, DC -- At the request of U.S. Representative Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica), U.S. Army Brigadier General Mark Brown (Program Executive Officer – Soldier) joined Arcuri today for a tour of Remington Arms in Ilion. General Brown is responsible for design, development, procurement, and sustainability of virtually everything U.S. soldiers wear or carry in the field, including firearms.

“It’s an honor to welcome General Brown to our region,” **Arcuri said**. “General Brown’s interest in seeing first-hand Remington’s superior craftsmanship and expertise in firearms production will assist the company in its efforts to grow in the future. I am committed to working with Remington to expand beyond traditional sporting firearms and into long-term military capabilities that will strengthen the company and spur future economic growth in Herkimer County.”

Remington Arms in Ilion is in the process of working to expand their expertise into a more military presence. In Ilion, the company currently manufactures most of the M-24 sniper rifles used by U.S. service men and women across the globe.

Arcuri is working with Remington and General Brown to help secure the necessary federal funding for the Army to upgrade its fleet of sniper rifles. This would be beneficial not only to the local economy and soldiers across the globe, but for taxpayers across the country. Remington’s proposal to upgrade the M-24 sniper rifle would save the federal government nearly \$6 million dollars.

As a member of Congress, part of Arcuri’s role is to bring key military decision makers, like General Brown, to the source for a first-hand look at the product. Allowing General Brown to see Remington’s superior craftsmanship and expertise in firearms production will help the company establish an even stronger relationship with the Department of Defense. General Brown is the most senior Army officer to visit the Remington Plant at Ilion in many years.

Remington Vice President for Firearms Manufacturing Joe Gross said, “On behalf of our 800 employees in Ilion, thank you General Brown for honoring Remington and our community by visiting our historic Remington Firearms Manufacturing Plant and participating with our mayor and village leaders in our chamber of commerce luncheon. We also thank Congressman Michael Arcuri for his leadership in inviting General Brown to visit Remington and Ilion. We are grateful for Congressman Arcuri’s representation in Congress, as we invest

in Ilion, and focus on our commitment to manufacture the finest military firearms for our service men and women.”

Following their tour, Arcuri and General Brown attended a luncheon in their honor hosted by the Village of Ilion and the Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce at the Village of Ilion Municipal Building.

Village of Ilion Mayor Mark Cushman said, “I am honored to have General Brown and his distinguished team visit our wonderful community.”

Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce President Mary K. LaBreche said, “The Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce is proud to be part of General Brown’s visit to Herkimer County. Remington Arms is important to us and deserves this recognition.”

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